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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/680,118 | 10/04/2000 | Jon B. Avner | 13768.173 | 7799 |

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EXAMINER

HAMILTON, MONPLAISIR G

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2172

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2003

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/680,118 | AVNER ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Monplaisir G Hamilton | 2172 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/30/03 has been entered.

The submission filed on 7/30/03 amended Claims 1, 17, 19 and 25, and cancelled Claim 26. Claims 1-25 remain for examination.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1- 7, and 10-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,826,253 issued to Bredenberg, herein referred to as Bredenberg in view of US 6,240,414 issued to Beizer et al, herein referred to as Beizer.

Referring to Claims 1 and 19:

Bredenberg discloses in a database management system that includes a database engine that receives and implements high-level document commands, each high-level document command comprising one or more operations to be performed on a document (col 1, lines 35-55), a method for allowing client applications to control how a particular high-level document command is implemented, the method comprising the following: an act of receiving a high-level document command meeting certain criteria (col 1, lines 35-40; col 3, lines 5-20); prior to implementing the high-level document command, an act of identifying one or more client applications that are to be notified of the receipt of the-only high-level document commands meeting certain criteria (col 4, line 55-col 5, line 5).

Bredenberg does not explicitly disclose “prior to implementing the high-level document command, an act of notifying the one or more identified client applications that the high-level

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document command meeting the certain criteria has been received (); an act of receiving instructions from the one or more client applications on how to affect the implementation of the high-level document command; and an act of following the received instructions when implementing the high-level document command for performing the one or more operations on the document, or not implementing the high-level document command at all if the received instructions so indicate.”

Beizer discloses prior to implementing the high-level document command, an act of notifying the one or more identified client applications that the high-level document command meeting the certain criteria has been received (col 5, lines 10-30; col 7, lines 4-8); an act of receiving instructions from the one or more client applications on how to affect the implementation of the high-level document command; and an act of following the received instructions when implementing the high-level document command for performing the one or more operations on the document, or not implementing the high-level document command at all if the received instructions so indicate (col 8, lines 39-45; col 11, lines 5-18).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Bredenberg such that the event notification process would notify clients of changes to the dataset prior to implementing the commands. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow the system to know that the cached data is stale and needs to be updated, prior to implementing a client update (col 41, lines 5-40), or such that conflicts between updates from different client applications can be resolved (col 5, lines 20-25).

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Referring to Claim 17:

Bredenberg discloses a database management system that includes a database engine that accesses and updates objects in a database, the database engine receiving high-level document commands, each high-level document command for performing an operation on a document that is associated with a plurality of tables in the database (col 1, lines 35-55), a method for allowing client applications to control how a particular high-level document command is implemented in the database, the method comprising the following: an act of receiving a high-level document command meeting certain criteria (col 1, lines 35-40; col 3, lines 5-20).

Bredenberg does not explicitly disclose “a step for allowing one or more client applications to affect how the received high-level document command is to be implemented, if at all, in the database, the step for allowing one or more client applications to affect how the received high level document command is to be implemented, including an act of identifying one or more client applications that are to be notified of the receipt of die-only high-level document commands meeting certain criteria, and an act of notifying the one or more identified client applications that a high-level document command meeting the certain criteria has been received prior to implementing the high-level document command”.

Beizer discloses a step for allowing one or more client applications to affect how the received high-level document command is to be implemented, if at all, in the database (col 8, lines 40-45; col 11, lines 10-20) the step for allowing one or more client applications to affect how the received high level document command is to be implemented, including an act of identifying one or more client applications that are to be notified of the receipt of only high-level document commands meeting certain criteria (col 6, lines 64-col 7, lines 10), and an act of

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notifying the one or more identified client applications that a high-level document command meeting the certain criteria has been received prior to implementing the high-level document command (col 7, lines 40-60).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Bredenberg such that the event notification process would notify clients of changes to the dataset prior to implementing the commands. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow the system to know that the cached data is stale and needs to be updated, prior to implementing a client update (col 41, lines 5-40), or such that conflicts between updates from different client applications can be resolved (col 5, lines 20-25).

Referring to Claim 25:

Bredenberg a database management system for implementing high level document commands for performing an operation on a document, each document being associated with a plurality of tables in an underlying database, the database management system comprising (col 7, lines 20-35): a database application that is configured to send high-level document commands (col 7, lines 20-35); a notification component that is configured to send a notification to any identified client application when only given high-level document commands meeting certain criteria are received by the database management system (col 4, line 55-col 5, line 5), and

Bredenberg does not explicitly disclose "prior to implementation of any of the high level document commands; an instruction receiver module that is configured to receive instructions from the notified third party application on how to implement the high-level document

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commands; and a database engine configured to follow the received instructions when implementing the high-level document commands”.

Beizer discloses prior to implementation of any of the high level document commands; an instruction receiver module that is configured to receive instructions from the notified third party application on how to implement the high-level document commands (col 5, lines 10-15; col 7, lines 4-10); and a database engine configured to follow the received instructions when implementing the high-level document commands (col 7, lines 20-60; col 8, lines 40-45).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Bredenberg such that the event notification process would notify clients of changes to the dataset prior to implementing the commands. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would allow the system to know that the cached data is stale and needs to be updated, prior to implementing a client update (col 41, lines 5-40), or such that conflicts between updates from different client applications can be resolved (col 5, lines 20-25).

Referring to Claims 2 and 20:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 and 19 above. Beizer further discloses, wherein the received instructions are for performing additional high-level document commands in addition to the received high-level document command (col 8, line 60-col 9, line 5).

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Referring to Claims 3 and 21:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 2 and 20 above. Beizer further discloses, wherein the additional high-level document commands and the received high-level document command are implemented atomically in the database (col 8, lines 60-65).

Referring to Claim 4:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 3 above. Bredenberg further discloses, wherein the additional high-level document command and the received high-level document command are implemented atomically using a group operation (col 39, lines 10-25; col 40, lines 40-50).

Referring to Claim 5:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Beizer further discloses, wherein the received instructions are for changing how the high-level document command is to be implemented in a database that is accessed by the database management system (col 8, lines 39-45).

Referring to Claim 6:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Bredenberg further discloses, wherein the received instructions are for preventing the high-level document command from being implemented at all (col 40, lines 45-50).

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Referring to Claim 9:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Bredenberg further discloses, wherein the high-level document command is for moving the document (col 42, line 60-col 43, line 5).

Referring to Claim 10:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Bredenberg further discloses, wherein the high-level document command is for deleting the document (col 43, lines 5-10).

Referring to Claim 11:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Bredenberg further discloses, wherein the high-level document command is for copying the document (col 42, line 60-col 43, line 5).

Referring to Claim 12:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Bredenberg further discloses, wherein the high-level document command is for updating the document (col 43, lines 5-10).

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Referring to Claim 13:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Bredenberg further discloses, wherein the high-level document command is for adding the document (col 43, lines 5-10).

Referring to Claims 14 and 22:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 and 19 above. Bredenberg further discloses, wherein the act of notifying the one or more identified client applications comprises an act of transmitting a message to a machine that hosts the client application, the machine that host the client application being different than the machine that hosts the database management system (col 41, lines 5-20; Fig. 2; Fig. 3b).

Referring to Claims 15 and 23:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claims 1 and 19 above. Bredenberg further discloses, wherein the act of notifying the one or more identified client applications comprises an act of passing the notification through a function call to the identified client application, the client application hosted by the same machine as at least the portion of the database management system responsible for performing the act of notifying the client applications (col 8, lines 55-68).

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Referring to Claim 16:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Beizer further discloses, wherein the act of receiving instructions from the one or more client applications occurs prior to the act of receiving the high-level document command (col 5, lines 13-18).

Referring to Claim 18:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 17 above. Beizer further discloses, wherein the step for allowing one or more client applications to affect how the received high level document command is to be implemented further includes: an act of receiving instructions from the one or more client applications on how to affect the implementation of the high-level document command in the database; and an act of following the received instructions when implementing the high-level document command, or not implementing the high-level document command at all if the received instructions so indicate (col 8, lines 39-45; col 11, lines 10-20).

Referring to Claim 24:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 17 above. Beizer further discloses, wherein the computer-readable media comprises one or more physical storage media (col 4, lines 60-65).

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4. Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,826,253 issued to Bredenberg, herein referred to as Bredenberg in view of US 6,240,414 issued to Beizer et al, herein referred to as Beizer as applied to Claims 1-6, 9-25 above, and further in view of applicants admitted prior art (specification: Fig. 1, pages 2-4), herein referred to as Admission.

Referring to Claim 7:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Beizer further discloses high-level document commands (col 1, lines 30-35; col 3, lines 5-10; col 9, lines 30-50).

Bredenberg in view of Beizer do not explicitly disclose, "wherein the high level document command is for performing an operation on an electronic mail message".

Admission discloses wherein the high level document command is for performing an operation on an electronic mail message (page 3, lines 8-12, 17-20).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Bredenberg in view of Beizer such that an electronic document represented in the DBMS is an electronic mail message. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a method for allowing conflicting updates of electronic mail messages to be resolved (Beizer: col 3, lines 5-10).

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Referring to Claim 8:

Bredenberg in view of Beizer discloses the limitations as discussed in Claim 1 above. Beizer further discloses high-level document commands and a Workfolder (col 1, lines 20-25; col 17, lines 10-16).

Bredenberg in view of Beizer do not explicitly disclose, "wherein the high level document command is for performing an operation on a folder that contains electronic mail messages".

Admission discloses wherein the high level document command is for performing an operation on a folder that contains electronic mail messages (page 3, lines 8-12, 17-20).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teaching of Bredenberg in view of Beizer such that the operations are performed on folders that contain electronic mail messages. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would provide a method for allowing conflicting updates of folders containing electronic mail messages to be resolved (Beizer: col 3, lines 5-10).

Prior Art

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 5315703 issued to Matheny, John R. et al. Matheny discloses a system for an object based notification system. The notification system is designed in a flexible manner to support change notification in an object-oriented operating system. The change notification includes a

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memory for storing connection information including notification routing information and connection registration information. The connection registration information is stored in a connection object of the object-oriented system and the notification system updates the connection object with registration information indicative of enablement or disablement of notification. Then, when a notification event is detected, the object-oriented operating system selectively notifies objects in the system based on the connection registration information stored in the connection object in the memory of the computer system.

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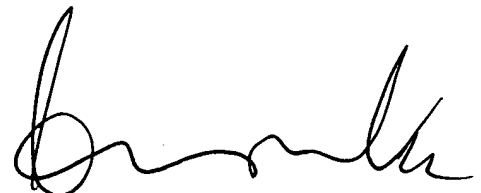
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Monplaisir G Hamilton whose telephone number is 1703-305-5116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y Vu can be reached on 1703-305-4393. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 1703-305-3900.

Monplaisir Hamilton



KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100